

1 in Chancery - 53
2 Library Chancery

Macclesfield Rural District Council

REPORT

on the



Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District

for the

Year ended 31st December 1956

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :
WILLIAM WATSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :
B. J. OVERBURY, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

REPORT

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District

for the

Year ended 31st December 1956



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29779686>

To the Chairman and Members of the
Macclesfield Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1956.

There has been an increase in the estimated population of 200. This was accompanied by an increase in the number of births, and a fall in the number of deaths.

Once again I am pleased to report that despite the considerable increase in the number of births not a single mother died in childbirth. This reflects great credit on all concerned namely Doctors and Nurses in the hospitals as well as the General Practitioners and midwives of the domiciliary service.

The year under review has been relatively free of infectious disease with the exception of Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis. It is now possible however, to affect very markedly the incidence of both these diseases by means of preventive inoculation. It is expected that as these vaccines are more often used these conditions will become as rare as Diphtheria.

There was a very marked increase in the number of houses built by private enterprise and a fall in those built by the Council. In most cases a house built by private enterprise makes another one available for occupation.

There has also been an increase in the number of Improvement Grants sanctioned by the Council. It is my view that there is insufficient understanding of the all round benefits of the Grant Scheme. For what happens is that the occupier of an improved house gets modern living conditions: the owner gives his property a new lease of life, and the rate-payer will often get back in higher rateable values more than the Council's share of the grant.

Attention is drawn to that section of the report produced by the Senior Public Health Inspector, and particularly to the number of inspections he and his assistant have carried out. This is the measure of the work that must be done to keep the Rural District clean and healthy. I am particularly impressed by the number of water samples taken and the number found unsatisfactory. The aim must surely be to see that the whole district has a safe and potable water in ample quantity.

During the year the Rural District was included in a specified area for the retail sale and distribution of milk. This means that only Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurized, or Sterilized milk may be retailed. There is no doubt that this measure will have a profound effect on the incidence of that form of Tuberculosis in man which is spread by milk.

It is disappointing to report that no visible progress has been made at Langley and Chorley in improving the adverse sanitary conditions that exist there. These matters have now been the subject of discussion over a very long period, and every effort should be made to bring the proposals to fruition by the earliest possible date.

Once again I have to thank your Clerk, Mr. H. W. Abbott, and the members of his staff for their help and guidance in enabling me to carry out my duties. In particular I wish to thank the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. W. Watson, and his Assistant, Mr. B. J. Overbury, with whom I work most closely, for their assistance in compiling this report.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient Servant,

L. RICH,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONSEXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Estimated population 20220 (20020)

BIRTHS

		<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>
Live Births	{ Legitimate	282 (228)	122 (119)	160 (109)
	{ Illegitimate	8 (1)	3 (-)	5 (1)
Still Births	{ Legitimate	4 (6)	2 (4)	2 (2)
	{ Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Live birth rate per 10000 estimated average population mid 1956 - 15.3 (12.2)
 Live birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population- 15.7 (15)
 Still birth rate per 1000 total (live and still) births - 13.6 (25.5)
 Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total (live and
still)births. - 23 (23.2)
 Still birth rate per 1000 total population -- .19 (.29)
 Still birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 total population- .37 (.34)

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The total number of deaths is shown as follows:-

	<u>Total:</u>	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>
Legitimate	6 (3)	3 (1)	3 (2)
Illegitimate	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 live births 20.6 (13.1)
 Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales 23.8 (24.9)
 Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births 21.3 (13.1)
 Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births 0 (0)

DEATHS

	<u>Total:</u>	<u>Male:</u>	<u>Female:</u>
Deaths (all ages)	270 (278)	154 (138)	116 (140)
Death rate per 1000 estimated average population			12.5 (12.2)
Death rate for England and Wales per 1000 of the population			11.7 (11.7)

The following tables shows the deaths from all causes within the district during the past year.

Cause	Total:	Male:	Female:
Tuberculosis, respiratory..	-
Tuberculosis, other	-
Syphilitic disease	1	1
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningoc occal Infections	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	1	1
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach..	...	8	6
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus..	...	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms..	31	15	16
Leukaemia, aleukaemia..	...	-	-
Diabetes	4	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	42	23
Coronary disease, angina	41	25
Hypertension with heart disease	5	4
Other heart disease	50	28
Other circulatory disease	8	6
Influenza..	...	1	1
Pneumonia..	...	5	3
Bronchitis..	...	13	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea..	...	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	3	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases ..	25	15	10
Motor vehicle accidents	5	-
All other accidents	5	2
Suicide...	...	1	-
Homicide and operations of war	1	-
TOTAL:		270	154
			116

Deaths from Puerperal and Maternal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	0	(0)
Other Maternal Causes ...	...	0	(0)

Maternal Mortality rate per 1000 live and still births ... 0 (0)

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREACare of Mothers and Young Children

The Health Visitors serving in this area are as follows:-

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Address:</u>	<u>Tel. No.</u>
Miss M. Spencer	2, Elm Drive, Macclesfield	Bollington 2376
Miss C. M. Marsh	23, King's Close, Wilmslow	
Miss M. R. Adamson	47, Ovenhouse Lane, Bollington	Bollington 2376
Miss F. E. Kilbourn	Edendale, Buxton Road, Newtown, New Mills, Stockport.	Disley 476

Attendances at Infant Welfare Clinics continue at a satisfactory level. At Poynton, which has the largest concentration of population in the Rural District and is growing, consideration may have to be given to holding the Clinic weekly instead of twice a month as at present.

It should be realised that in a Rural District much of the child care and supervision of necessity must be carried out in the home as the establishment of Clinics in sparsely populated areas would involve the mothers in long journeys, and the few that could attend would not justify the expense involved.

As forecast in last year's report, a Midwives Clinic was established at Poynton on a fortnightly basis. The General Practitioners have been encouraged to join in, and together with the Health Visitor and the Midwives the mothers are seen jointly. In addition to the medical examinations carried out, much useful work is done in the field of Health Education and Mothercraft. It is hoped to institute a Relaxation Class and to employ a part-time physiotherapist for the purpose.

Whilst the number of babies being born in hospital remains the same, it is satisfactory to note the considerable increase in those born at home. It is my view that if the medical and home conditions are satisfactory in all respects then the home is the best place for birth to take place. As we improve the standard of home care and introduce more supervision in our Clinics, there is no reason why this tendency for increased number of home births should not go on.

BIRTHS 1956

Hospital		Home		Private Nursing Home	
Live	Still	Live	Still	Live	Still
141	5	114	-	20	-
(140)	(3)	(76)	(3)	(16)	(1)

The sale and distribution of Welfare Foods has continued at the various clinics and all demands here have been satisfactorily met. We are heavily indebted to all those voluntary workers who assist in the sale and distribution, and it is no exaggeration to say that without them this service would be expensive indeed.

The localities and times of operation of the various clinics in the Rural District are as follows:-

<u>Welfare Centre</u>	<u>Health Visitor in Charge:</u>
Poynton: Park Lane, Poynton	Nurse F. E. Kilbourn 1st and 3rd Thursday p. m.
Prestbury: Wellington Road, Bollington Tel. Bollington 2376	Nurse M. Spencer 1st and 3rd Wednesday p. m.
Rainow: Wellington Road, Bollington Tel. Bollington 2376	Nurse M. R. Adamson, 1st and 3rd Wednesday p. m.
Sutton: Lane Ends Club, Sutton	Nurse M. R. Adamson 2nd and 4th Wednesday p. m.

WELFARE CLINICS

Welfare Centre	New Cases			Total Attendances			No. of Clinics held	Cases seen by Doctor	Average per clinic seen by Dr.
	0-1	1-2	2-5	0-1	1-2	2-5			
Poynton	77 (61)	- (-)	- (-)	644 (535)	293 (348)	447 (530)	24 (24)	316 (250)	13.1 (10.4)
Prestbury	10 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	78 (120)	87 (14)	86 (99)	24 (24)	76 (70)	3.1 (2.9)
Rainow	10 (13)	- (-)	- (-)	72 (136)	67 (55)	126 (193)	24 (24)	69 (72)	2.8 (3)
Sutton	18 (18)	- (-)	- (-)	212 (197)	80 (141)	87 (101)	22 (23)	103 (95)	4.6 (4.1)

HOME NURSING SERVICE

The Nurses who form part of this service are as follows:-

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Address:</u>	<u>Tel.No.</u>
Mrs. K. A. Dawson	Sunshine Cottage, Butley Lane, Adlington	Prestbury 8360
Mrs. E. Gornall	Nurses's Cottage, Monksheath, Chelford	Chelford 216
Miss J. Hughes	Church House, Chelford	Chelford 314
Mrs. Parsons	2, Warren Grove, Gawsworth	Macclesfield 2187
Miss M. M. Brown	1, Robin Crescent, Sutton, Near Macclesfield	Sutton 363
Miss A. Cheetham	82, Barnaby Road, Poynton	Poynton 2137
Miss M. A. Wright	7, Bollinside, Prestbury	Prestbury 8464
Miss A. K. Keates	Oakwood, Chapel Lane, Rainow	Bollington 2184

The changes that have occurred during the year are that Nurse Wheater is married and is now Mrs. Dawson, Nurse Brown of Gawsworth transferred to Sutton and Nurse Mrs. Parsons took over in Gawsworth.

All the Home Nurses in Macclesfield R. D. are Midwives in addition. Their control, appointment and supervision of work done is carried out centrally by the Health Department, Chester. Close co-operation however, exists between the County Council and your Medical Officer who is responsible for the accommodation, equipment, drugs, dressings and transport of the Nurses. There is no doubt that a good deal of influence could be exerted by the Rural District Council if that were ever necessary.

The work of these Nurses helps very considerably to deal with patients in their own homes who otherwise would require admission to hospital. They take their instructions mainly from the family doctors, and it is to their credit that throughout the year under review, no General Practitioner has ever complained about this service, and on many occasions it has been the subject of high praise.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

For the first time the public were offered the opportunity of registering for Poliomyelitis Vaccination. Owing to restricted supplies only young children could be catered for. It is hoped that as time goes on and more material becomes available, everyone will have an opportunity of obtaining this protection.

There is no doubt that good immunity is obtained by this procedure. and the incidence of Paralytic Poliomyelitis is considerably reduced.

The effort to keep Diphtheria at bay continues steadily year in and year out. There is no doubt that if these efforts were relaxed this disease would re-occur and cause many deaths and serious permanent damage to health.

The following table which relates to England and Wales illustrates just how successful immunisation against Diphtheria has been.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Corrected Notifications</u>
1948	156	3575
1949	84	1890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	266
1954	9	173
1955	13	155
1956 (provisional)	8	51

It is now possible to provide a very good protection against Whooping Cough, and in many cases it is combined with the Diphtheria Prophylactic in order to reduce the number of injections.

Statistics

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school children	24	(49)
School children	<u>16</u>	<u>(33)</u>
	40	(82)
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Re-inforcing injections	55	(66)

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-school children	23	(36)
School children	<u>8</u>	<u>(12)</u>
	31	(48)
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

Combined Immunisation (Diphtheria and Whooping Cough)

Pre-school children	183	(160)
School children	<u>16</u>	<u>(10)</u>
	199	(170)
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

Primary Vaccination

Pre-school children	145	(136)
School children	<u>1</u>	<u>(3)</u>
Adults	<u>3</u>	<u>(20)</u>
	149	(159)
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

Re-Vaccination

Pre-school children	6	(1)
School children	2	(2)
Adults	<u>35</u>	<u>(26)</u>
	43	(29)
	<hr/>	<hr/>

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, is available for bacteriological analyses of water, milk, food and ice-cream as and when we require them. In addition they deal with material from infectious diseases.

We obtain the maximum co-operation at all times and this excellent service is under the control of Dr. W. T. Parker to whom we are indebted.

AMBULANCE AND SITTING CASE CAR TRANSPORT

The closest co-operation exists between the Macclesfield and Cheadle and Gatley Divisions and ourselves in serving the Rural District with ambulances and sitting-case transport. In a widely scattered area such as ours, it is necessary to work with neighbouring authorities in order to cut down mileage. Although the demand on this service continues to increase, I am pleased to report that very few serious complaints are received.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

As pointed out in previous reports, the provision of a Home Help very often makes it possible for a patient to remain at home instead of being transported to hospital. This service is largely employed in dealing with old people; they, more than anyone, wish to remain at home, and resent very often having to go into hospital or institution. It is anticipated that as the years go on, greater demand will be made on the Home Help Service.

Statistics relating to the Home Help Service provided in the Macclesfield Rural District during 1956 are as follows:-

Home Helps employed during 1956

Home Helps employed at 31st December, 1956

Applications received during 1956

Confinements	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	(8)
Sickness...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	(8)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	(-)
Aged and Infirm .	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	(6)
							<u>32</u>	<u>(22)</u>

Cases Attended during 1956

Confinement	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	(6)
Sickness ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	(10)
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	(-)
Aged and Infirm .	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	(19)
							<u>42</u>	<u>(35)</u>

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Macclesfield Borough was involved in an outbreak of Poliomyelitis and eight cases occurred in the Rural District, including one death.

As pointed out previously, it is hoped that Poliomyelitis Vaccination will go a long way to stamping out this disease. A start has already been made and by the time the next Annual Report is published, vaccination should be available for many more people.

Whooping Cough continues to occur, and here too it is now possible to protect by means of immunisation. This disease may cause serious damage to the lungs, and in infancy carries a high mortality.

With the increasing number of essential immunisations it is now necessary to subject individuals to, research is going on to produce a single comprehensive agent so as to reduce the number of injections.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR, 1956

Disease	Age distribution										Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	1	7	3	-	-	-	-	12	8	-
Whooping Cough	4	2	2	4	3	22	5	-	-	1	-	45	-	-
Measles	-	2	2	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	10	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1	2	-	1	1	2	-	3	2	14	-	5
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	5	3	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	3	-	1	-	1	2	1	-	-	8	6	1

TUBERCULOSIS

There were twelve cases of Pulmonary and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year, and for purposes of comparison the notifications as for sex and age are given from 1947.

NOTIFICATIONS 1947 TO 1956

	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		
	P	NP																			
<u>Male:</u>																					
Up to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 - 5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
5 - 15	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	
35 - 45	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
45 - 55	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	
<u>FEMALE:</u>																					
Up to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
5 - 15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
25 - 35	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	-	
35 - 45	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
45 - 55	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total:	6	2	4	1	11	3	6	2	10	2	12	4	6	1	5	2	7	4	12	1	

DEATHS 1947 TO 1956

	1947		1948		1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956		
	P	NP																			
<u>Male</u>																					
Up to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5 - 15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
35 - 45	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
45 - 55	4	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
65 and over	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
<u>Female</u>																					
Up to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
35 - 45	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
45 - 55	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
55 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	6	1	4	-	4	-	4	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	

CASES ON REGISTER AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1956

	Up to 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65 & Over	Total
Male Pulmonary	-	1	1	5	7	4	10	7	4	39
Female Pulmonary	-	-	1	4	14	10	7	-	1	37
Male Non-Pulmonary	-	-	9	3	2	3	-	2	1	20
Female Non-Pulmonary	-	2	7	1	2	1	2	-	3	18

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I am indebted to the Public Health Inspector for the information contained in the following sections of this report.

WATER

The supply of water from public mains has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality during the year. Work started on the installation of a plant at the Pott Shrigley source works for aerating the water to prevent the deposit of sediment in the pipes.

The Stockport Corporation have begun to lay the mains in the Parish of Nether Alderley which is within their statutory area of supply. This will provide a satisfactory water supply in place of the present Estate private supply which on various occasions has been found to be polluted. It was in 1950 as a result of routine samples taken from this private supply, that pollution was found and the source traced to silage pits, the liquor from which was gaining access to the water supply.

A private supply at Leek Old Road in the Parish of Sutton has also been found to be liable to pollution and routine sampling is continuing here with a view to deciding what action should ultimately be taken.

Work was carried out in default by the Council in two cases where statutory notices to provide a supply of water in pipes in the house had not been complied with.

Past experience has shown that it is necessary to keep all private supplies under constant surveillance and as a result the water from a private supply was found to be polluted despite the fact that chlorinators are installed. It was found that the chlorinators were not being properly maintained. These were put in order, but it has been considered that only sampling at regular intervals would provide a suitable check on the correct maintenance.

One hundred and fifty four samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination.

<u>Private Supplies:</u>			<u>Public Supplies:</u>		
<u>Number Taken:</u>	<u>Satisfactory:</u>	<u>Non Satisfactory:</u>	<u>Number Taken:</u>	<u>Satisfactory:</u>	<u>Non-Satisfactory:</u>
141	92	49	13	13	-

There were no mains extensions during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

A start was made with the laying of sewers in connection with the Great Warford Sewage Disposal Scheme. Besides providing for new development and taking the drainage from the new I. C. I. Research Establishment at Alderley Park this scheme will also get rid of nuisances arising from foul ditches in the parishes of Nether Alderley and Great Warford due to inadequate and unsatisfactory disposal works for the various institutions and private dwellings in the area.

There still remain however the villages of Langley and Chorley which are without proper sewerage facilities. The sewerage of Chorley awaits the construction of the joint disposal works for Alderley Edge and Wilmslow. The sewerage of Langley remains a matter of the greatest importance. The continuing existence of privies and pail closets in the village is regrettable. Whilst appreciating the difficulties which have beset the proposals for a main drainage scheme for Langley, it is to be sincerely hoped that some active progress during the coming year will be possible.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Council proposes to increase the frequency of the refuse collection service in the parishes receiving a three monthly collection to a monthly collection. The erection of new properties in the area has increased the work considerably and as a result it was found necessary to engage two additional men. Private properties in this area are often built on large plots of land with the result that bins are usually placed at long distances from the nearest point of collection. Modern estate development has also increased the length of "carry" for the men and consequently slowing down the speed of collection. However, it can be said that the service has been carried out with great regularity and it is important that the public should be able to rely on a regular service at proper intervals.

The disposal of refuse causes some anxiety. It is difficult to prevent unauthorised persons using tips and irresponsible persons from setting them on fire. It has been found that the only satisfactory method of dealing with tip fires has been the use of a bulldozer which can dig out the burning refuse and push it forward in front of the tip face.

The cesspool emptier which was bought last year has given good service

and those who have availed themselves of it have been full of praise for the efficient way in which the work is carried out compared with the old method of emptying tanks by a pump and discharging the contents on to adjoining land.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a summary of the principal work which has been undertaken under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Inspections:

Record of nuisances abated and work carried out

The following table summarises some of the matters dealt with during the year.

Dampness remedied, roofs, gutters, rainwater pipes etc. repaired..	29
Housing defects repaired	36
Mains water supply provided...	2
Drains repaired or cleansed	27
New sinks provided	1
Water closets repaired or renewed	7
Pails converted to W.C.'s	-
Pails renewed	9
Privies converted to pails	-
Privies converted to water closets	-
Accumulations removed...	2

Housing

Number of Council houses completed during the year	32
Number of Council houses in course of erection at 31st December,	
1956 ... -	
Number of Council houses sold during 1956 - Pre-War... . 8	
Post-War.... 6 14	
Number of cottages acquired by the Council	7
Number of pre-war houses at 31st December, 1956.	227
Number of post-war houses at 31st December, 1956	714
Total number of houses owned by the Council	941
Number of improvement grants approved	55
Number of improvement grants refused	7

Demolition and Closing Orders

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	Nil
Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 and still in force ...	Nil

Unfit Houses made fit and houses in which defects
were remedied

Number of houses rendered fit as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	36
---	----

Public Health Acts

Action under Statutory Powers

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service
of formal notices:-

(a) by owners 5
(b) by local authority in default of owners Nil

Rats and Mice Destruction

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, places on Local Authorities an obligation to inspect the district for infestations and carry out on their own properties, the destruction of rats and mice; and also, to carry out by agreement or default, the work of extermination on other premises. The following figures cover the year ended 31st March, 1957.

Number of properties inspected	567
Number of properties inspected found to be infested by rats and mice	149
Number of properties treated	121

Filthy and Verminous Premises

As the result of action taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, an old person was removed to Part III Accommodation. Resort was had to this action only after persistent efforts had been made to persuade the person to enter a County Council Home voluntarily. In view of the fact that the premises were verminous much of the furniture was destroyed by burning. The house was fumigated and the premises, which are the subject of a Demolition Order, have not been re-let.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk

There are approximately 200 milk distributors in the area; the majority of these are producer-retailers.

The whole of the Rural District was declared a Specified Area from October 1st, with the result that only graded milks could be sold. Several farmers who did not produce tuberculin tested milk chose to buy milk in bottles and dealers' licences were granted. In two cases, separate dairies were provided where tuberculin tested milk, bought in bulk, could be kept separate from milk produced on the farm. In one case, notice of refusal was served on an applicant. He appeared before the Council and licensing was refused pending the provision of a new dairy, so that the Council could be satisfied that tuberculin tested milk would be kept separate from that produced on the farm.

No notices were served under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Special attention has been paid to milk sampling from schools where raw milk is provided under the Milk in Schools Scheme. No samples were found to show evidence of tuberculous infection, but two samples from one producer/retailer failed to pass the methylene blue test for tuberculin tested milk and the facts were referred to the County Milk Regulations Officer for attention.

Licences issued in connection with the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 - 1954 are set out below.

	<u>Dealer's Licences</u>	<u>Supplementary Licences</u>
Pasteurised ...	... 17	6
Sterilised ...	... 15	7
Tuberculin Tested ...	... <u>26</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>58</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u><u>58</u></u>	<u><u>19</u></u>

Milk Sampling

Designation	Samples submitted to P. H. Laboratory	Methylene Blue Test		Tuberculous Infection	
		Satis.	Non-Satis.	Evidence	No Evidence
Ungraded	6	5	1	-	6
Tuberculin Tested	27	25	2	-	27

Heat Treated Milk

Designation	Samples submitted to P. H. Laboratory	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test	
		Satis.	Non-Satis.	Satis.	Non-Satis.
Pasteurised	2	2	-	2	-

Food Premises

The Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation on the 1st January. Little work has been done to implement the requirements of the regulations. It was intended that a preliminary survey of all premises coming within the scope of the regulations should be carried out in the first instance with a view to assessing the size of the problem. However this has been beyond the capacity of the staff available.

Building plans submitted for the construction of a roadside cafe in a popular part of the district were amended so as to comply with the regulations.

One Certificate of Exemption was issued to a firm of Civil Engineering Contractors regarding the provision of a wash basin in the temporary canteen which was shortly to be closed. One farmhouse caterer gave up business when asked to provide a glazed sink and wash basin in place of an existing insanitary slopstone in the kitchen.

The provision of a water supply sufficient and wholesome to comply with Article 15 of the Regulations is likely to cause some difficulty. Supplies to certain licensed premises are known to be polluted and no alternative supply is available. Is the local authority to issue a Certificate of Exemption? There is no doubt that a pure water supply is essential, especially where any extensive catering is carried out. Whilst the regulations give an adequate control of food premises, isolated instances arise where one is impaled on the horns of a dilemma; to grant a Certificate of Exemption would resolve a difficult situation in an easy manner; to refuse to issue a Certificate would mean closing a business established hundreds of years ago!

Ice Cream

The larger of the two premises registered for the production of ice-cream by the hot-mix process closed down during the year, and the plant was removed. There are two premises registered for manufacture by the cold-mix process.

Foods and Drugs Act, 1955 Sect. 16

There are fifty one premises registered for the sale of ice-cream and twelve premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages etc.

Meat and Other Foods

Slaughterhouses

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district. An appeal against the Council's decision to grant a licence in respect of a new application was dismissed by the Magistrates in the Court of Summary

Jurisdiction. An appeal against the Magistrates' decision was heard before the Appeals Committee at the Quarter Sessions. The appeal was dismissed.

No further improvements have been carried out at any of the slaughter-houses.

All meat slaughtered in the district has been inspected. Detailed examination is made of all carcases for the presence of *cysticercus bovis*. Details are appended.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED 1956

	Cattle excl'g cows:	Cows:	Calves:	Sheep and Lambs:	Pigs:
Number killed (if known)	761	46	19	3413	595
Number inspected	761	46	19	3413	595
Comparable Figures 1955	528	155	34	2911	508
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	3	1	3	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.0%	6.5%	1.6%	0.001%	0.002%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	64	6	-	-	28
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	8.4%	15.2%	-	-	4.9%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and total condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Carcase Meat Condemned

							Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Cow	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	11
Pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	25
Casualty	.	...	...	...	...	...			20
Calf	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	17
Casualty Calf	..	...	...	...	...	...			26
Casualty Sheep	.	...	...	...	...	...		4	19
							<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
							8	3	6
							<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Meat found to be unsound in slaughterhouses is stained green and collected by a condemned meat contractor who certifies as to its disposal and credits the owner.

All food, other than meat condemned in slaughterhouses is disposed of either by burning or burying, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector who issued the certificate as to its unfitness.

The following articles of food were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

Tinned Ham ...	...	...	...	...	52 lbs.
Tinned Meat ..	...	...	...	...	10 cwts.
Fresh Meat ...	...	...	...	...	100 lbs.
Tinned fruit..	...	...	...	...	107 tins
Tinned milk...	...	...	...	...	5 tins

FACTORIES ACTS:Inspections:

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspect- ions	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories, in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	2	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	59	13	3	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
Totals:	61	13	3	-

Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars:	Number of Cases in which defects were	
	Found:	Remedied:
Sanitary Conveniences		
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3
Totals:	3	3

